

Silverheights Parent Council Meeting

January 27, 2016 6:30pm in the library at 390 Scott Road, Cambridge, Ontario

1. Call to Order – Amanda Rilan
2. Introductions
 - Brenda Moen, Brad Thomson, Amanda Rilan, Owen Rilan, Faye Wilson, Dana Tremblay, Helen Parker Brown, Menna Smith
 - Regrets: Wendy Campbell, Karen Petznick
3. Approval of November Minutes - Question raised regarding dispersal of funds. No decision has been made on dispersal of funds.
 - Approved – Paula Butt
 - Second – Amanda Rilan (no other members present could vote)
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approved – Helen Parker Brown
 - Second – Paula Butt
4. Correspondence
 - Amanda presented a package for "Inspiring your Child to Learn and Love Math"; approved to move forward with investigating the program further
 - QSP package received and moving forward with cookie batter
5. Principal Update
 - Brenda confirmed the communication by the Board for an additional PA day on Feb. 26. Unsure yet of how the PA day will be utilized or whether it will be permanent.
 - Ms. Domm returning from Mat Leave as 3 day/week Teacher, Mrs. Schofield returning from Mat. Leave, Mrs. Healy should be leaving on Mat Leave, Mark Boucher to replace her, Mr. Moffat is recovering from his surgery and anxious to return.
 - Report Cards to be sent out Feb. 19
 - More than 80% of families are on School Day. Teachers using it more as a communication tool.
 - Silver Celebration was a great event.
 - Track and Field planned for May and June
 - 2 Syrian Refugee families are new to the school with 4 students enrolled. Armenian community has sponsored these families with more on the way. Excited for their first "tubing" experience
 - Introduced idea of a "Buddy Bench" as a possible dispersment of extra budget funds. Buddy Bench for children who do not have a buddy to sit and a buddy will know to come and play with them. Brenda sourced a bench for \$300. Also introduced an idea for a wheel chair accessible picnic table for the school yard, approx. \$1,300 per bench.
 - Last of the new iPads have been dispersed and 72 Chromebooks as part of a trade-in for used desktops. Every K-2 has at least 3 iPads and 3 Chromebooks per classroom. Needed to arrange new covers for iPad's.
 - Started Web Attendance this past week. Teachers log in to either desktop, Chromebook or iPad to take attendance. Updated by office for students who have called in sick and teacher can complete attendance and upload to central database. Paper backup copies for supply teacher.
6. Vice Principal Update (in absentia)
 - Buddy pals in the school yard, boys and girl volleyball, new families welcomed, scientists in the school.

- School resource Police Officer once a month visits as a resource for teachers and students.
- Concussion protocol being implemented. 5 students reported concussion. Includes a sticker that tells other students that student has hit their head and to watch out for them.
- Immunization for Grade 7 and 8. Dental screenings.
- Plans to appreciate Crossing Guards on Feb. 10.
- Safety and Bike workshop for Grade 5 students in the spring.
- School travel plan update given to Wendy and communicated to new families registering for JK. Grad photo day complete.
- EQAO for Grade 3 and 6 between May 25 and June 5.

7. Teacher Rep Update

- Me to We days coming up. All funds going to Syrian refugees locally.
- Lewis 6C collecting Milk bags and pop can tabs for Syrian refugee aid.
- Great Canadian Valentine swap across Canada. 190 classes signed up.
- Intermediate students going tubing at Chicopee on Jan. 28.
- Basketball teams, boys and girls playing and club team.
- Intermediate students making Grade 9 course selections beginning in February. Online process. Teachers make recommendations with report cards and students review with their parents and submissions are made in class on Chromebooks.

8. SNA Update

- SNA doing well; drop and shop a success. Running programs Mon to Friday.
- Tapped into Leader In Training program at both Silverheights and St. Gabriels
- LEAD programming for community hours going well. 13 yrs. Or older, weekend of training with a leadership certificate to help with volunteer positions. \$50 cost for the entire weekend. BYOL. Feb. 6 and 7 is next weekend. April after that.
- Bike Rodeo tie in with Grade 5 program and their own on June 7.
- Summer programming plans underway with registration in the Spring

9. Fundraising Update

- Proceeding with QSP cookie dough fundraiser as in past year. Orders collected between Feb. 8 and 25, earlier than last year with a March delivery, preferably before March break. Request help on the pickup night. Wednesday would work better for most.
- Pizza is going strong in first session of the year. Running well, moved to Tuesday. School day was much easier to manage. Expect \$5,000 to be raised after both sessions.

10. Finance update:

- Approx. \$20,000 available for disbursement after the current round of Pizza. Open to options for ways to spend the money. Discussion of possible ways to accentuate the "Buddy Bench" or Picnic bench, i.e. tree or possibly helping to fund these two ideas. Plan to review further at the next meeting.
- Discussion of surveying parents to try and gauge interest in how to spend the funds by possibly providing categories or ideas of what might be needed. Helen introduced Earthscape/Play as a possible option for outdoor classroom. Additional funding can be made available to support specific projects through corporate sponsorship. Exploring options of how to present ideas to parents.
- Old Tarmac in bad conditions. Reported to Board facilities as an issue.

11. Questions/New Business:

- Paula had a question about Razkids. Razkids as a program was not renewed as a license by the school. Will look into it as an option to renew if there is demand.
- Amanda highlighted an article from the Toronto Star regarding school drop off that was submitted by the STP.
- Survey to be assembled and sent out before the next meeting in April 27.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting April 27, 2016 in the library.